



C. Dukes Scott
Executive Director

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
OFFICE OF REGULATORY STAFF

1401 Main Street
Suite 850
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May 28, 2009

Mr. Charles L.A. Terreni
Chief Clerk/Administrator
South Carolina Public Service Commission
101 Executive Center Drive
Columbia, South Carolina 29210

Re: Proceeding to Establish Guidelines for an Intrastate Universal Service Fund
Docket No. 1997-239-C

Dear Mr. Terreni:

The Customer Choice and Technology Investment Act became effective May 6, 2009. While the legislation was pending in the Senate, the Chairman of the Senate Judiciary subcommittee directed the ORS to host a meeting with the various stakeholders in an attempt to resolve the concerns. A meeting was held on Monday, March 16, 2009. Both during and after the meeting, several compromises were reached. One of the compromises agreed upon and discussed with the Senate Judiciary subcommittee was the filing of this request with the Commission for a hearing to address whether basic local service should receive State Universal Service Support when it is included in a bundled service offering or contract offering.

The South Carolina Cable Television Association (SCCTA), Compsouth, tw telecom of south carolina llc, and Nuvox Communications Incorporated (collectively referred to as the "CLECs") filed a "Motion Requesting Review of USF Issues" on July 3, 2008, and raised the issue of whether basic local service lines that are part of a package or a "bundle/contract offering" should receive State Universal Service Funding ("State USF"). The South Carolina Telephone Coalition ("SCTC") and ORS agree that the bundled services issue needs to be addressed by the Commission.

Pursuant to the agreement as presented to and agreed to by the Senate Judiciary subcommittee, the ORS, with the concurrence of the SCTC and the SCCTA, respectfully requests that the Commission prioritize the issue of whether basic local service should receive State USF support when it is included in a bundled service offering or contract offering, and address this matter separate and apart from and prior to any other pending issues.

The parties request that the Commission appoint a hearing officer and schedule a status conference in order to establish deadlines for prefiled testimony and to set a hearing date.

In light of this filing, we also ask that the Commission hold in abeyance the other issues raised in Docket 1997-239-C, and postpone the scheduled August 10th hearing date for Oral Argument until after the bundled services issue has been addressed by the Commission.

Very truly yours,

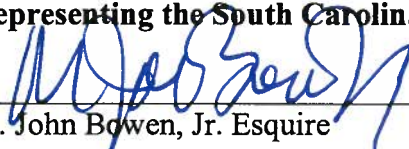
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Dukes Scott', with a stylized, flowing script.

C. Dukes Scott

cc: Parties of Record

WE CONCUR:


Representing the South Carolina Telephone Coalition



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WE CONCUR:

Representing the South Carolina Cable Television Association

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Bonnie D. Shealy", is written over a horizontal line.

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